

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/052,551

Examiner

Ramsey Refai

Applicant(s)

SAMPATHKUMAR, GOVINDARAJ

Art Unit

2154

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to communication filed January 18, 2002.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18 and 20-30.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 01/18/2002
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other PTOL-413B.

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ido Tuchman on April 28, 2005.

The application was amended as follows:

In claim 16, line 1, please delete **"tangible"** and replace with **-computer storage-**

In claim 16, line 3, please delete **"tangible"** and replace with **-computer storage-**

In claim 17, line 2, please delete **"tangible"** and replace with **-computer storage-**

In claim 18, line 2, please delete **"tangible"** and replace with **-computer storage-**

Please cancel claim 19

In claim 20, line 2, please delete **"tangible"** and replace with **-computer storage-**

In claim 21, line 4, please add – **a computer storage media having stored thereon the following-**

2. Claim 19 has been canceled.
3. Claims 1-18, and 20-30 are allowed.
4. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.109 and M.P.E.P 1302.14, the following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach neither singly or in combination the claimed limitation for determining an availability potential for the node pairs, the availability potential

being the sum of the participation indexes of the node pair members subtracted by the hamming distance of the node pair; as in independent claims 1, 6, 16, and 21.

Also, the prior art of record fails to teach neither singly or in combination the claimed limitation for selecting master nodes to manage a target node group in a computer network having multiple nodes and node groups by determining a hamming distance for node pairs within the network; wherein the hamming distance being the number of node groups the node pair members do not share in common; as in independent claim 26.

Claims 2-5 are dependent on claim 1, therefore are allowed for the reason given in respect to claim 1.

Claims 7-15 are dependent on claim 6, therefore are allowed for the reason given in respect to claim 6.

Claims 17, 18, 20 are dependent on claim 16, therefore are allowed for the reason given in respect to claim 16.

Claims 22-25 are dependent on claim 21, therefore are allowed for the reason given in respect to claim 21.

Claims 27-30 are dependent on claim 26, therefore are allowed for the reason given in respect to claim 26.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ramsey Refai whose telephone number is (571) 272-3975. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ramsey Refai  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2154

RR  
April 28, 2005

LARRY D. DONAGHUE  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

